

ORDINANCE 26-09

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 316 OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF RUNNEMEDE, ENTITLED "SOLID WASTE," SPECIFICALLY § 316-3, TO REGULATE THE DISPOSAL OF MEDICAL WASTE AND RADIOACTIVE MATERIALS AND TO UPDATE COLLECTION REQUIREMENTS

WHEREAS, the Borough of Runnemede maintains Chapter 316 of its Code to regulate the proper handling, storage, and collection of solid waste within the municipality; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Council finds it necessary to update and clarify requirements related to the preparation and collection of garbage and rubbish to promote public health, safety, and welfare; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Council further finds that improper disposal of regulated medical waste and radioactive materials presents significant risks to public health, sanitation workers, and the environment; and

WHEREAS, federal and State laws, including regulations promulgated by the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection and the United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission, govern the handling and disposal of such materials; and

WHEREAS, the Borough seeks to ensure that such materials are not introduced into the municipal solid waste stream and are disposed of only in accordance with applicable law; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Council also finds it appropriate to clarify container limitations and labeling requirements to improve efficiency and accountability in waste collection;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Runnemede, County of Camden, State of New Jersey, as follows:

SECTION 1

Chapter 316, Article I, § 316-3, entitled "Preparation for collection," is hereby amended to read as follows:

§ 316-3. Preparation for collection.

- A. All garbage, before being placed in containers, shall be drained free from all liquids and shall be wrapped in several thicknesses of paper or placed in a suitable bag or container.
- B. All garbage and rubbish shall be drained of any liquid before being deposited for collection.

All containers/receptacles shall be properly marked with stickers or permanent markers for recycle collections and should contain the street address to which property the trash/recycle containers/receptacles belongs.

- C. Other refuse shall be stored in durable containers with close-fitting covers, except that bulky refuse may be packed and bundled together and firmly tied so as to be easily handled and not to exceed four feet in length nor 50 pounds in weight. No rubbish shall be stored in cardboard boxes.

All residential units (other than apartments or condominiums where the complex has more than six units in any one building) will be allowed four (4) thirty-two-gallon containers per week. Public Works Superintendent or designee, at their discretion, may allow more containers on an individual request received by the Department of Public Works.

- D. Ashes shall be placed in a separate, noncombustible container and shall not at any time be placed on a combustible surface.
- E. Removal of wearing apparel, bedding or other refuse from homes or other places where highly infectious or contagious diseases have prevailed should be performed under the supervision and direction of the Health Officer of the Borough. Such refuse shall not be placed in containers for regular collections.
- F. No person shall dispose of, deposit, discard, or otherwise place any regulated medical waste or radioactive material in or upon any municipal solid waste stream, collection system, transfer station, landfill, recycling facility, or other property owned, operated, or controlled by the Borough.

No person shall dispose of any regulated medical waste or radioactive material within the geographic boundaries of the Borough except in full compliance with all applicable federal and State laws and regulations and at facilities specifically authorized and permitted to accept such materials.

For purposes of this section:

“Regulated medical waste” shall have the same meaning as set forth in N.J.A.C. 7:26-3A.6.

“Radioactive material” shall mean any material regulated by the United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission or the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection.

Nothing in this section shall prohibit:

- (1) The lawful use, handling, storage, or transportation of regulated medical waste or radioactive materials in compliance with applicable federal and State law; or
 - (2) The transport of such materials through the Borough by properly licensed entities.
- G. Highly inflammable or explosive materials shall not be placed in containers for regular collection, but shall be disposed of as directed by the Borough at the expense of the owner or possessor thereof.
- H. Improper disposal of hypodermic needles will result in discontinuation of trash service. If a violation occurs, trash service will be discontinued until the resident is enrolled into a safe syringe disposal program. The Public Works Superintendent or designee shall have the authority to refuse collection services for failure to comply herewith.
- I. Any person, firm or corporation that violates or neglects to comply with any provision of this chapter or any regulation promulgated pursuant thereto shall, upon conviction thereof, within 48 hours of notice, be punishable as follows:
- (1) First offense: up to \$100.
 - (2) Second offense: up to \$200.
 - (3) Third offense and thereafter: up to \$500.

SECTION 2

If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, or phrase of this Ordinance is declared unconstitutional or invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, such decision shall not affect the remaining portions of this Ordinance.

SECTION 3

All ordinances or parts of ordinances inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency.

SECTION 4

This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon final passage and publication according to law.

NOTICE

The above ordinance was introduced and passed on first reading at a meeting of the Borough Council of the Borough of Runnemede held on the 7th day of April, 2026, and will be taken up for final consideration and passage at a meeting of the Borough Council of said Borough of Runnemede, 24 N. Black Horse Pike, Runnemede, New Jersey, on the 5th day of May, 2026, at which time and place all persons interested will be heard.

Beth Miller, Borough Clerk
Upon First Reading